THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 646 *Thursday, Dec.* 18, 1823. *Price* 1*d.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

SHAKSPEARE'S Comedy of *Much Ado about Nothing*, was acted last night. The novelty of the Evening, was the first appearance of Miss JONES, as *Beatrice*, which character the indisposition of Miss CHESTER had left open to a new candidate. Miss JONES is already known to the town for a very lively representation of *Rosalind*, in *As You Like It*, which bears a slight resemblance to the qualities necessary to the fair man-hater. The names of some of our celebrated comic actresses are to be found united with this character, and adding to their fame by its successful personation; it is undoubtedly well calculated to draw forth all the vivacious talent of the performer, whilst an occasional restriction of its flow is required, that can only be correctly done by a person of fine discrimination. We cannot say that Miss JONES possesses all the necessary discrimination, but she has a great fund of lively spirit that does much to cause the character to pass off with eclat. We think, that were she to curb her vivacity of look a little more at some points, she would produce a higher effect, because by eternal smiles and arch looks, the force of wit and humor is often greatly reduced. There is no doubt that Miss JONES is a young lady of very considerable talents, and that she would, very probably, in time become a favourite. She was received with great favor throughout.

Mr. C. KEMBLE played *Benedick* with great gaiety and humor, yet we imagine, he has been happier in the character on some former occasions. Perhaps, the thinness of the audience from the inclement weather, had some effect in damping his usual ardour. Still, he was highly entertaining, and the applauses at his acting, were frequent and loud. The Play in its other parts, was well sustained.

The splendid Drama of *Cortez* followed, in which Miss PATON sang and acted delightfully.

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE HYPOCRITE.

MR. DOWTON'S performance of *Doctor Cantwell*, is so celebrated, that it is no wonder it attracted considerably, notwithstanding the weather. It is his very best character; and whatever objections may be raised as to the Play itself, his excellent acting, and the humor of Mr. LISTON, in *Maw-worm*, are sure to entertain.

ADELPHI—That ever-lasting piece of low Comedy, *Tom and Jerry*, and that *magnificent spectacle*, yclepcd, "*Quadrupeds*," *&c.* are still the rage. Last night, in the *row* with the watchmen, one of the *Charlies* was nearly *floord* for life; he was knocked off the stage into the orchestra. He was obliged to be supported from the scene of battle.—We hope he was not seriously hurt.

OLYMPIC.—The amusements of this Theatre are well calculated to kill a few hours very pleasantly. If the audiences ever come away with long faces, it is because their entertainment is at an end.

"THEATRICAL REFUND.—In the Middlesex County Court, before Mr. HEATH, several suits were on Monday brought, in which Mr. ELLISTON was defendant, to recover money paid by persons, who, when His Majesty visited Drury Lane Theatre, could not obtain seats or even standing room. The jury, in some cases, found for the plaintiffs, on the evidence that some had passed from the pit, on being told by *the servants of the house that there was room in the boxes*, and that others had paid their money at the box-door, without receiving any intimation from the receiver, that the house was *full*, or there being any board up at the time, with a notice to that effect." We do not think Mr. ELLISTON to blame in this business, any further than in not causing due notice to be given, *on this extraordinary occasion*, that there were no seats to be had in the boxes. Yet it is difficult for the Manager or any person, to say, in general, whether there is or is not room to be found in the boxes, because the company in that quarter often remove, and vacate their seats; and the Manager, consequently, has an undoubted right to admit a few more than will actually fill the seats there. In defending the actions referred to, Mr. ELLISTON was only performing a necessary duty to himself and his establishment; for it could only be by evidence that proof of the grievance and of the individuals who suffered it, was to be obtained. Mr. ELLISTON has to support the whole weight of his immense establishment, on his single responsibility, and it can only be rendered beneficial to himself, and a permanent and efficient centre of amusement to the public, by the most prudent attention to his own interests, not forgetting at the same time what is due to his patrons.

DARING ROBBERY OF AN ACTRESS.—On Saturday night last, after the performance at the Royalty Theatre, Miss AINSLEY, the actress, was proceeding from thence towards her residence, near Tower-hill, along Rosemary-lane. On her arrival at a dismal part of that thoroughfare, a ruffianly-looking fellow, made his appearance, and snatched a reticule from her grasp, with which he ran down a narrow avenue near the spot. The agitation of the lady was so extreme, that she was prevented causing alarm, or pursuing the thief, who succeeded in making his escape.

☞ IT is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by an imitation of this Paper.

Printed & Published by E. THOMAS, Denmark-Court, Exeter-'Change, Strand.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Comedy of The

Man of the World,

Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, Mr YOUNG,
Egerton, Mr COOPER,
Lord Lumbercourt, Mr BARTLEY,
Sidney, Mr ABBOTT, Melville, Mr EGERTON
Counsellor Plausible, Mr EVANS,
Sergeant Eitherside, Mr CHAPMAN,
Sam, Mr PARSLOE, John, Mr ATKINS,
Tomlins, Mr LEY,
Lady Macsycophant, Mrs PEARCE,
Lady Rodolpha Lumbercourt, Mrs CHATTERLEY,
Constantia, Miss BEAUMONT.
Betty Hint, Mrs GIBBS, Nanny, Miss BODEN,

After which, in 3 acts, (with Curtailments) the Opera of

CLARI;

Or, the Maid of Milan.

Rolamo, Mr FAWCETT, Jocoso, Mr DURUSET
The Duke Vivaldi, Mr ABBOTT,
Page, Master LONGHURST, Nicolo, Mr J. ISAACS
Giulio, Mr TINNEY, Claudio, Mr PYNE,
Geronio, Mr KEELEY, Nimpedo, Mr MEADOWS,
Clari, Miss M. TREE,
Fidalma, Mrs VINING, Vespina, Miss LOVE,
Ninetta, Miss HALLANDE,

Characters in the EPISODE.

Nobleman, Mr BAKER, Pelegrino, Mr CHAPMAN
Wife of Pelegrino, Mrs PEARCE,
Leoda, Miss BEAUMONT.

To-morrow, Hamlet, Hamlet, Mr Young, with Timour the Tartar.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening the Opera of

The Cabinet.

Whimsiculo, Mr HARLEY. Peter, Mr DOWTON
Prince Orlando, Mr BRAHAM,
Marquis de Grand Chateau, Mr BROWNE,
Lorenzo, Mr HORN, Count Curvoso, Mr GATTIE
Manikin. Mr HUGHES,
Baptista, Mr POVEY, Pietro, Mr HONNOR,
Curioso, Mrs H. HUGHES,
Constantia, Miss FORDE, Leonora, Miss CUBITT,
Bianca, Mrs HARLOWE,
Crudelia, Mrs KNIGHT, Doralice, Miss GREEN,
Floretta, Miss STEPHENS.

Huntsmen, Domestics, &c.

Messrs. Yardley, Read, Honner, D. Smith, Randall,
Kench, and Plumstead.
Messdms. Phillips, Willmott, Gibbon, Webster,
Valancy, Smith.

To conclude with a Grand Drama called The

Cataract of the Ganges.

Ackbar, (*Emperor of Hindustan*) Mr POWELL,
Jam Sahib, (*The Rajah of Guzerat*) Mr. YOUNGE,
Mokarra, (*Grand Brahmin of the Jahrejah Tribe*) Mr WALLACK,
Iran, (*a young Hindu Warrior,*) Mr PENLEY,
Mokagee, (*a Hindu Peasant*) Mr J. BARNES,
Ambassador, (*from the Emperor of Hindustan*) Mr WEBSTER,
Mordaunt, (*an Officer in the English Army,*) Mr ARCHER,
Jack Robinson, (*Mordaunt's Servant,*) Mr HARLEY,
Combatants by Messrs. BLANCHARD, PAULO, & HOWELL,
Dessa, (*Daughter of the Emperor of Hindustan*) Miss PHILLIPS
Zamine, (*of Guzerat,*) Miss L. KELLY,
Matali, (*a female Hindu Peasant of the Jhalla,*) Miss GREEN,
Ubra, (*her Daughter*) Miss POVEY,

To-morrow, Guy Mannering, with The Cataract.